

# **ANITA GULLICKSON**

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January 19, 2002

Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division  
Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

The settlement in U.S. v. Microsoft has my support because I believe this case has reached a reasonable conclusion for all parties concerned, including the American economy. I believe it is important to point out that the case did not show that consumers were adversely affected by Microsoft's actions, and that the essence of the matter is centered around Microsoft and its highly competitive marketplace adversaries.

In my professional life, personal life and endeavors as a family farm activist, I have depended upon Windows systems, and I have been very satisfied with the product. For farm families in South Dakota, Windows systems have the right price, the most important functions and accessibility needed to remain competitive in agriculture. Windows empowers people, and in the rural areas of our nation Windows becomes a "great equalizer" by giving farm people equal access to market information and financial transactions.

A feature I particularly like in the settlement is the requirement that Microsoft will send software, computer systems and technical support to schools in low income areas, and I am sure South Dakota will ultimately become a significant beneficiary in that distribution. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this settlement.

Sincerely,



Anita Gullickson